



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

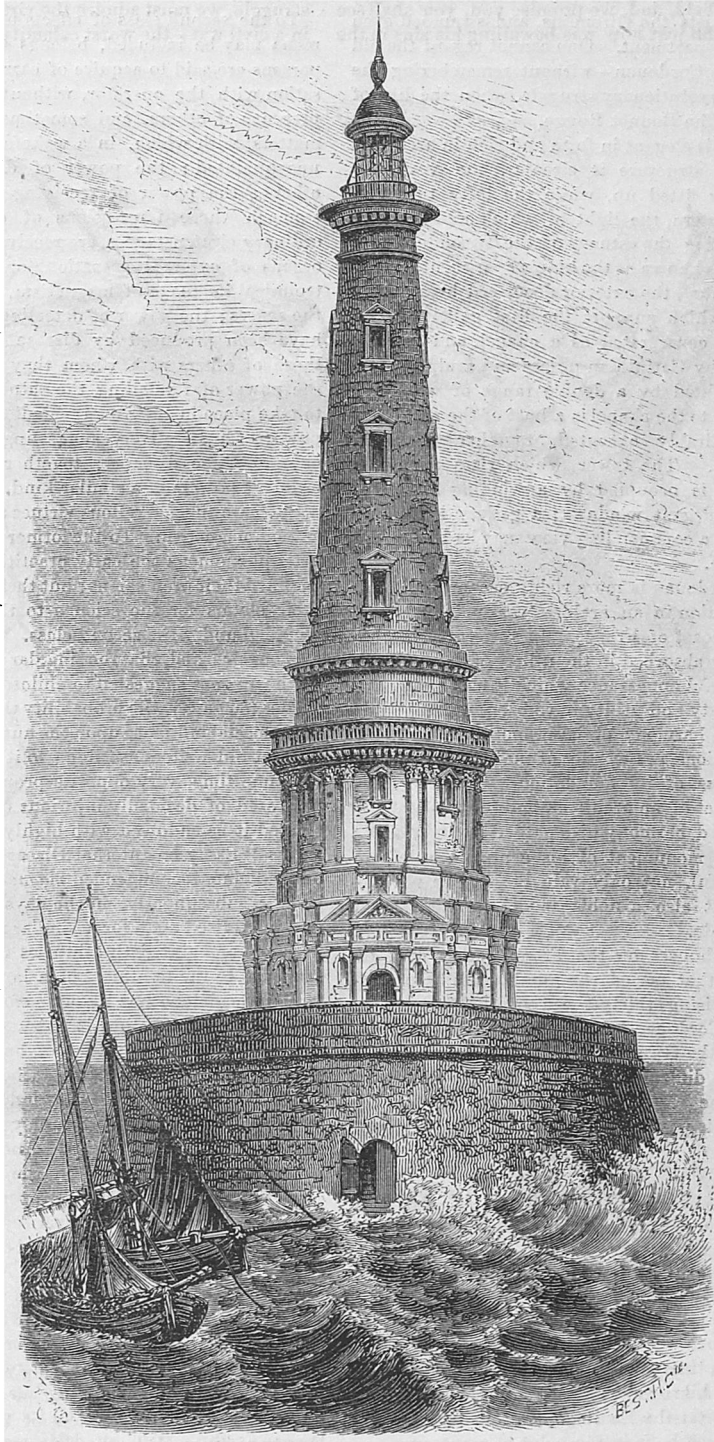
JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE LIGHTHOUSE OF CORDOUAN.

THIS celebrated French lighthouse is built upon an isolated rock at a short distance from the mouth of the Gironde. It was commenced in 1584, under Henry III., and finished in 1610;

lighthouse founded by the Black Prince, when the English held possession of that part of France.

The neighbourhood of the Gironde is peculiarly interesting.



LIGHTHOUSE OF CORDOUAN.

but considerable alterations have been made since that time. It was originally designed by Louis de Foix, the architect of the Escorial, who is said to have died there, and to have been buried within it. The same rock was formerly occupied by a

It is one of the most flourishing vine districts in France. The aspect is that of an undulating country, affording here and there peeps of the river between the gentle hills and valleys which intersect it. The vintage occurs in the month of Sep-

tember, and then the banks of the Gironde present a scene of activity and bustle. Every road is crowded with ox-carts and cheerful groups of pickers; the air resounds with songs and laughter. But beautiful as the locality appears, it abounds in marshes and stagnant pools which render it unhealthy; and gay and cheerful as are the groups of vine-dressers, fearful scenes have been enacted on that very ground. There raged the horrors of the civil war, when the revolutionary party overcame their antagonists the Girondins, and swamped even the very name of the department. One cannot regard the old lighthouse—la Tour de Cordouan—without remembering the deep tragedy of the revolutionary struggle, when the lily of St. Louis gave place to the Bonnet Rouge.

The present building is elegant in form and rich in architectural ornament. The structure is circular, the vestibule extensive and carefully fitted up, while the lofty turret is surmounted by the lantern, the light of which affords a safe guide to mariners entering the estuary of the Gironde. The first story of the tower is known as the king's apartment, richly and profusely ornamented, the exterior decorated by a colonnade of Doric pillars which support the first gallery. The second story has been consecrated as a chapel, and is of a circular form, enriched by Corinthian pillars and sculptures of great beauty; it is lighted by a double range of windows, while over the entrance to the chapel is a bust of the architect, Louis de Foix, admirably executed, together with an appropriate inscription. The tower which rises from the summit of the chapel is occupied by a winding staircase, lighted by large and elegant windows; a gallery surrounds the pharos, from which a commanding view may be had of the neighbouring coast line.

The lighthouse of Cordouan is more richly ornamented, and possesses greater attraction in an architectural point of view, than any other on the coast of France. In structures of this sort attention is usually absorbed in the utility of the building rather than in any graceful appearance which it may present to the eye. But both beauty and utility have been united in this ancient specimen; the harmony of its proportions, and the perfection of its decorations, are worthy of the strength of the tower and the firmness of its foundation. In these days utility is the great object of an architect, and for this taste is sometimes sacrificed and harmony disregarded; but Louis de Foix, in this sublime monument of his genius, has left an edifice not only beautiful, not only valuable in the navigation of the coast, but also a noble model of what such structures might be made.

The number of lighthouses on the French coast was, in 1839, fifty-nine; since that period the number has been augmented to 169, comprising thirty-seven of the first order. The beacon tower of Cordouan is one of very great importance, as the mouth of the Gironde is beset with sand-banks, rendering the passage difficult and dangerous to mariners quitting or entering the river. For antiquity, beauty, and utility, this lighthouse is peculiarly interesting.

FACTS IN THE HISTORY OF ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

THE history of animal magnetism furnishes some of the most remarkable illustrations on record of the influence, through the imagination, of the mind upon the body, and of the disposition in human nature which has led men, in all ages and nations of the world, to believe in the existence and agency of supernatural powers. A brief sketch, therefore, of its nature, and of some facts connected with its operation, may not be without interest.

The phenomena which animal magnetism has been conceived to produce in those to whom its agency is applied, may be comprehended under two classes: those which occur whilst the person operated upon remains awake, and those which take place whilst he is asleep, or in a state resembling sleep. To the former class of effects belong, *first*, various sensations, more or less painful, experienced particularly in those parts

of the body which form the seat of disease, and which enable the practitioner to detect where that seat actually is; *secondly*, convulsive and other nervous affections, which have been regarded by the advocates of this agency as salutary crises; and *thirdly*, the removal of all diseases with which the magnetised patient may be affected, the magnetic influence proving in this respect an universal curative of disease and preservative of health.

To the second class of effects under which magnetic phenomena may be included, belongs the power which magnetised persons are said to acquire of carrying on a continued conversation with the operator, without being at all sensible of the presence of others, and sometimes in a language, and upon matters, with which, in a wakeful state, they are altogether unacquainted; the power of discovering the thoughts of others; the power of receiving through the region of the stomach those impressions of external objects which, in ordinary circumstances, are received only through the peculiar organs of external sensation, or that power which, in the technical language of magnetism, is called the transference of the senses; the power of detecting the internal changes which have been produced by disease in their own bodies, or in those of others with whom they may be placed *en rapport*; the power of foretelling the nature of the changes which are to take place in their own maladies, or in those of others; the power of instinctively suggesting the best remedies for the cure of these diseases; together with various other extraordinary powers of a similar kind.

Such are the marvellous virtues attributed by its advocates to animal magnetism. To the former of these two classes of magnetic phenomena the early practitioners of this mysterious art confined their pretensions; but their modern followers extended their claims for the science to the wonderful manifestations included under the second class. In reference to the former, it may be remarked, that the singular physical properties possessed by the magnet suggested to philosophers, as early as the age of Thales (600 B.C.), the probability that it was capable of exerting some special influence upon the human system; and accordingly we find old writers ascribing to it various remarkable, but, at the same time, very opposite properties, some regarding it as possessed of decidedly injurious qualities, whilst others considered it as endowed with highly salutary medicinal powers. In his "Essay on Internal Diseases," Hippocrates, the father of medicine, recommended *magnesian*, or loadstone, as a purgative; subsequently, in the days of Galen it was employed in a pulverised state for a similar purpose; and so late as the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries its use in this manner was extended to the treatment of a large class of diseases. Pulverised loadstone was likewise employed as an external application. In Pliny's time it was used outwardly for diseases of the eye, and for the cure of burns and scalds; and so on through the intervening centuries down to Paracelsus, the celebrated German physician and hermetic philosopher, who, in the sixteenth century, employed it largely as a remedy for numerous external injuries. And although Dr. Gilbert, an English physician, proved in the beginning of the following century that the magnetic properties of the loadstone were entirely destroyed in its pulverised state, the use of the powdered magnet, both as an internal and external remedial agent, continued for a century longer. Nor was the employment of the magnet in its entire state less ancient or general than that which was made of it as a powder. But this belief in its curative efficacy seems to have formed only a part of a great system, whose advocates appear to have recognised magnetism as a general power pervading the whole universe, and establishing connexion between all its various parts. It remained, however, for the celebrated Mesmer to construct out of these abstract notions of a universal magnetic influence, a regular system, which has taken his name, and which claims for animal magnetism, thus reduced to a science, all the wonderful powers to which reference has been made. These claims have been so extensively discussed, and so differently estimated, as to render useless any expression of opinion upon their merits.